



Name: Sonja Bruderhofer

Age: 27

Education: MA in Conflict, Governance and Development, University of York; BA in International Relations, University of Geneva

Current position: Project Coordinator at UNICEF Kyrgyzstan

Your career path so far

- Project Coordinator, UNICEF, Kyrgyzstan
- Associate Child Protection Officer (UNV), UNICEF, Kyrgyzstan
- Coordination Associate, Terre des Hommes Suisse, Senegal
- Fundraising Trainee, ICRC, Switzerland
- Internships in international organisations and UN agencies

How did you find your current consultancy?

I started my career in international cooperation through internships and traineeships in international and multilateral organisations before working with a Swiss NGO in Senegal. My field experience in the area of children's rights led me to take up a UNV assignment in child protection with UNICEF in Kyrgyzstan. Following my enriching UNV experience, I am now coordinating a UNICEF project in Kyrgyzstan.

What do you like and dislike about consultancies?

Consultancy and Individual Contractor contracts are a great opportunity to gain work experience with international organisations while making a real impact. However, being hired by public organisations as staff would give additional benefits (such as insurance schemes or social benefits) that are usually not applied to consultants/contractors.

Your advice for future consultants?

Gaining experience through different opportunities at the UN (internships, UNV assignments, etc.) and making contacts may open doors for consultancies or staff positions. If you have a citizenship of another country, also check the national UN website and local job portals regularly, as national consultancies may be published locally only.